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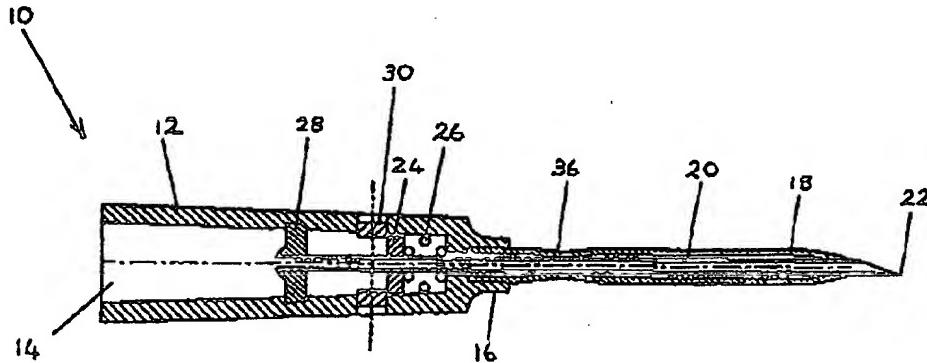
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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 :  A61M 5/32		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/20058  (43) International Publication Date: 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)
(21) International Application Number:	PCT/AU99/00827	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, BE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date:	29 September 1999 (29.09.99)		
(30) Priority Data:	PP 6347 6 October 1998 (06.10.98) AU PP 6477 14 October 1998 (14.10.98) AU PP 8318 22 January 1999 (22.01.99) AU		
(71)(72) Applicants and Inventors:	PRESTIDGE, Dean, Brian [AU/AU]; 7 Key West Drive, Mullaloo, W.A. 6027 (AU). WHISSON, Maxwell, Edmund [AU/AU]; 5/70 Subiaco Road, Subiaco, W.A. 6008 (AU).		
(74) Agent:	LORD, Kelvin, Ernest; Lord & Company, 4 Doura Place, West Perth, W.A. 6005 (AU).		

## (54) Title: A NEEDLE APPARATUS



## (57) Abstract

A needle apparatus (10) has a thin walled catheter (18) enclosing a tubular needle (20) having a sharp point (22), the catheter (18) and the needle (20) being relatively moveable longitudinally a short distance, from a first position where the needle (20) projects from the catheter (18) and to a second position at which the sharp point (22) is located within the catheter (18). The needle (20) remains in the fluid pathway of the needle apparatus (10) at all times. The needle apparatus (10) is arranged to pierce tissue when the catheter (18) and the needle (20) are in the first position.

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